

October 17, 2002

Business, community leaders plan a “Facing the Future Forum” on “Supporting Each Other in the Coming Century”

Washington's health and human services system is heading toward a crisis. Demand for services is growing, health care costs are out of control, and the services people need are changing. Approaches that worked in the past won't work in the future.

For these reasons, business and community leaders are working together on the “Facing the Future Forum: Supporting Each Other in the Coming Century,” to be held December 6 in Seattle.

The Forum will begin a new public conversation about what services we really need; what kind of society we want to shape; and what roles individuals, families, businesses, nonprofit organizations, communities and government can assume in reshaping the way we take care of each other.

This is a broad-based, inclusive discussion, involving people who are not normally part of the conversation about health and human services.

Invitations are being extended to community leaders statewide who represent a wide variety of community sectors: business, labor, foundations, faith community, social services, municipal government, county government, state agencies, Legislature, K-12 education, higher education, and media.

Who's Who in planning the Forum?

The Forum is being planned by a distinguished and diverse committee of business and community leaders.

Co-chairs of the Forum are Bob Watt, Vice President for Government and Community Relations of the Boeing Commercial Airplane Division, and Dennis Braddock, Secretary of the Washington Department of Social and Health Services.

Sponsoring organizations are:

- United Way of King County
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Casey Family Programs
- Department of Social and Health Services
- Seattle University
- The Seattle Foundation
- Philanthropy Northwest
- Annie E. Casey Foundation

The keynote speaker at the Forum will be Washington Post syndicated columnist David Broder.

It will be held from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, December 6, at the Seattle Westin Hotel.

Major policy issues outlined in a new report

Many issues, including those to be addressed at the Forum, are outlined in a new DSHS report “Facing the Future: The State of Human Services.” It will be available from local library systems throughout the state.

It also will be available in limited quantities from the state Department of Printing at 360-570-5024 or by email at: fulfillment@prt.wa.gov. The Publication Number is: “DSHS 22-589(X).”

An on-line version will be available on the DSHS Internet website at www.wa.gov/dshs/FacingtheFuture.



Facing the Future Forum Sponsors

United Way of King County
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Casey Family Programs
Dept. of Social and Health Services
Seattle University
The Seattle Foundation
Annie E. Casey Foundation
Philanthropy Northwest

Facing the Future Forum Advisors

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